

REMARKS

In a telephone interview on July 7, 2004, with Examiner Monplaisir Hamilton, the applicant's representative, Mandy Jubang, discussed claims 1 to 38 and the Ho reference. The applicant's representative authorized an examiner's amendment to the independent claims 1, 7, 13, 18, and 32. Specifically, claim 1 was amended to clarify that "if at least one of the data fields of the received unmodified data differs from the corresponding data field of the current data, then at a machine, both (1) updating at least one of the data fields of the received unmodified data to include the current data, and (2) updating at least one of the data fields of the received unmodified data to include the modified data." Similar amendments were made to the independent claims 7, 13, 18, and 32.

In the Office Action dated July 21, 2004, the examiner stated that the prior art of record does not fairly teach or suggest the limitations of proposed claims 1-31 and 37-41, and indicated that claim 34 contains allowable subject matter. Without conceding the examiner's objections, independent claim 32 has been amended to include the features of claim 34. Accordingly, the applicant submits that independent claim 32 and its dependent claims 33, 35 and 36 are patentable over Bass.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

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Page : 12 of 12

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Enclosed is a \$110.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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